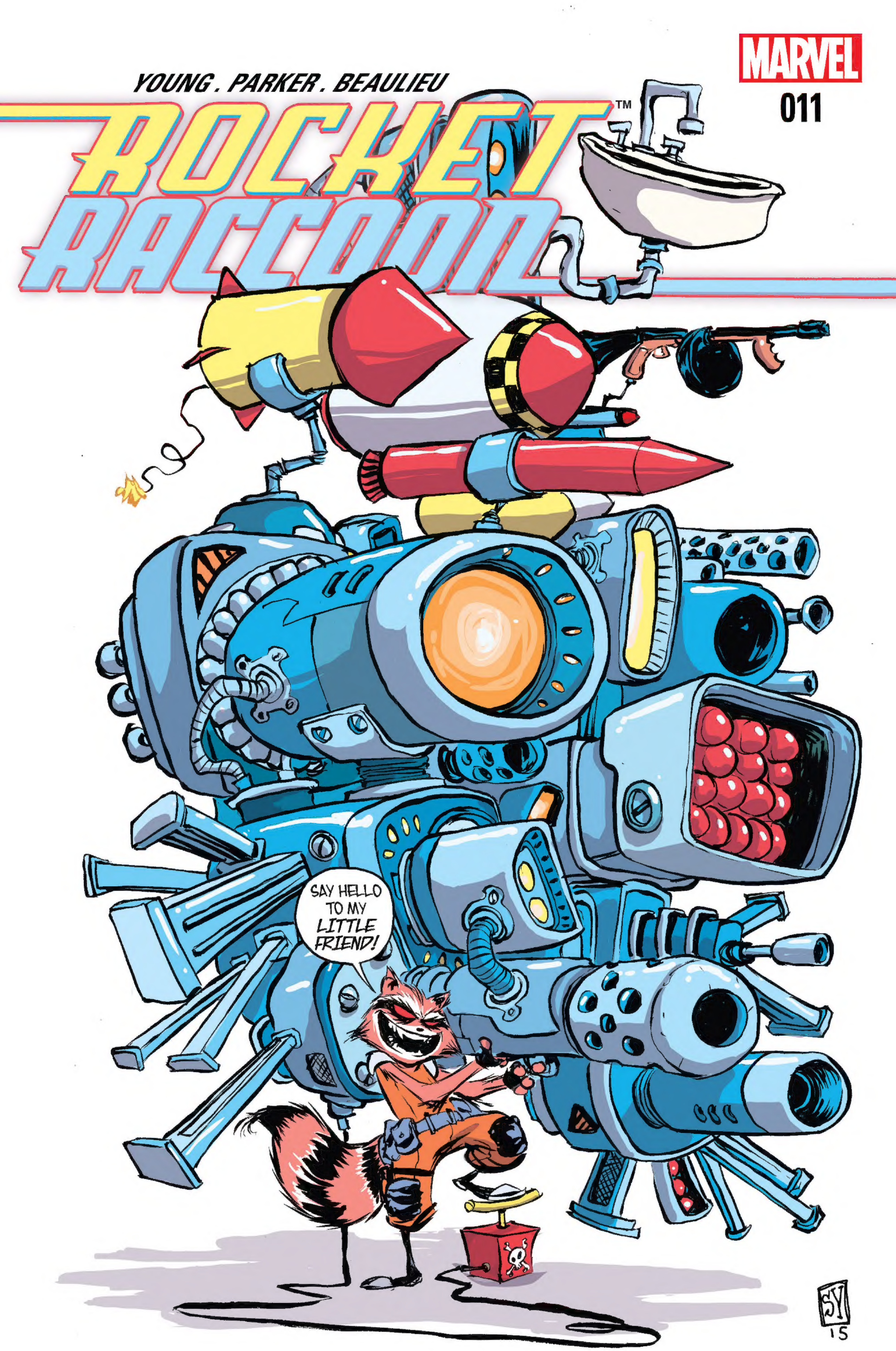
YOUNG . PARKER . BEAULIEU
ROCKET RACCOON™
MARVEL
011
SAY HELLO TO MY LITTLE FRIEND!
SY 15

MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT PROUDLY PRESENTS

ROCKET

GUARDIAN OF THE GALAXY, GUNSLINGER, SUI GENERIS*?

RACC-FACT 992: THERE ARE 22 KNOWN SUBSPECIES OF RACCOONS ON PLANET EARTH, YET ROCKET RACCOON DOESN'T FIT INTO A SINGLE ONE.

RECENTLY, ROCKET AND HIS TRI-SYLLABIC, SPACE-TREE PARTNER GROOT FINISHED THEIR LAST ODD JOB AND EARNED ENOUGH CREDITS TO PAY BACK THE FORTUNE ROCKET "BORROWED" FROM HIS PRINCESS EX-GIRLFRIENDS.

WHILE HEADED TO SETTLE UP WITH THE INTERGALACTIC COURT SYSTEM, AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, ROCKET GOT A CALL ABOUT A LEAD ON THE LOCATION OF THE BOOK OF HALFWORLD, A RECORD CONTAINING EVERYTHING KNOWN ABOUT HIS PAST. NATURALLY, ROCKET DITCHED HIS APPOINTMENT AND TOOK OFF TO DO SOME GENEALOGY.

OH! AND NOW THE PO-POS ARE ON HIS TAIL.

*IT MEANS ONE OF A KIND.
READ A BOOK WHY DONTCHA?!

RAGDOLL

BOOKENDS PART 2

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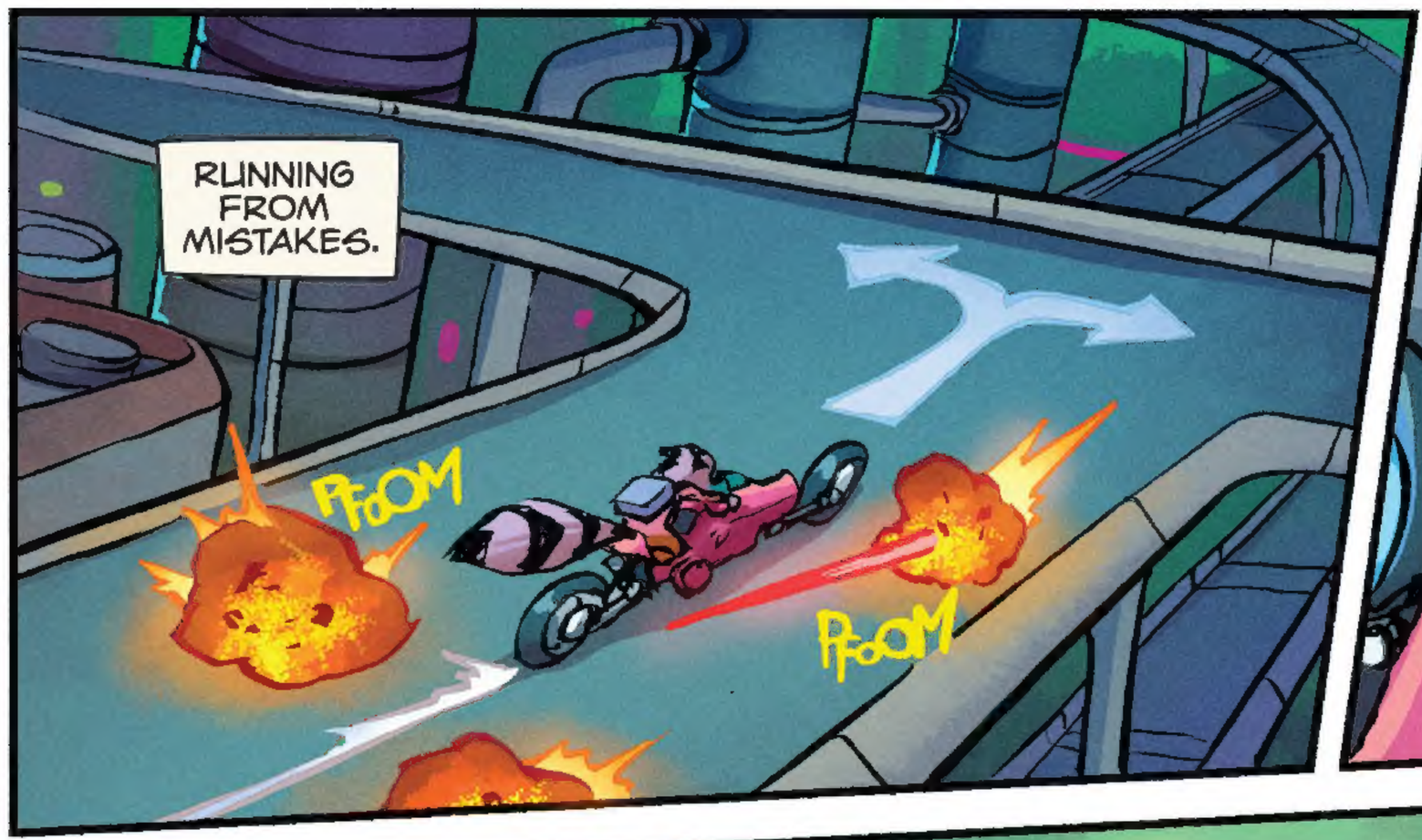
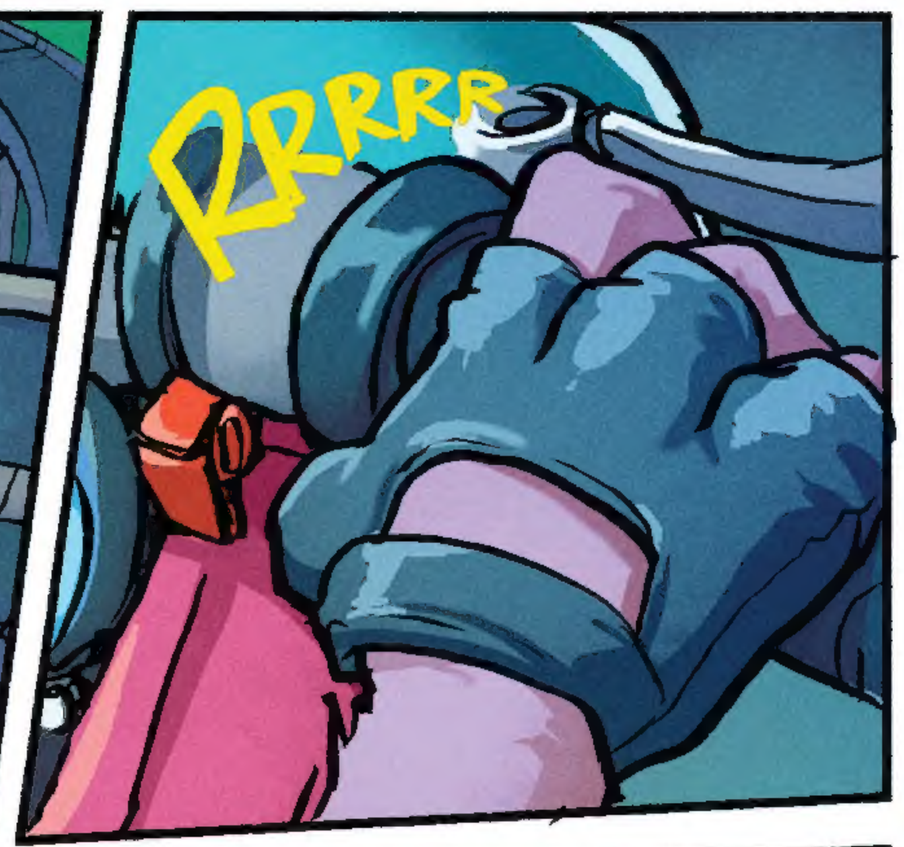
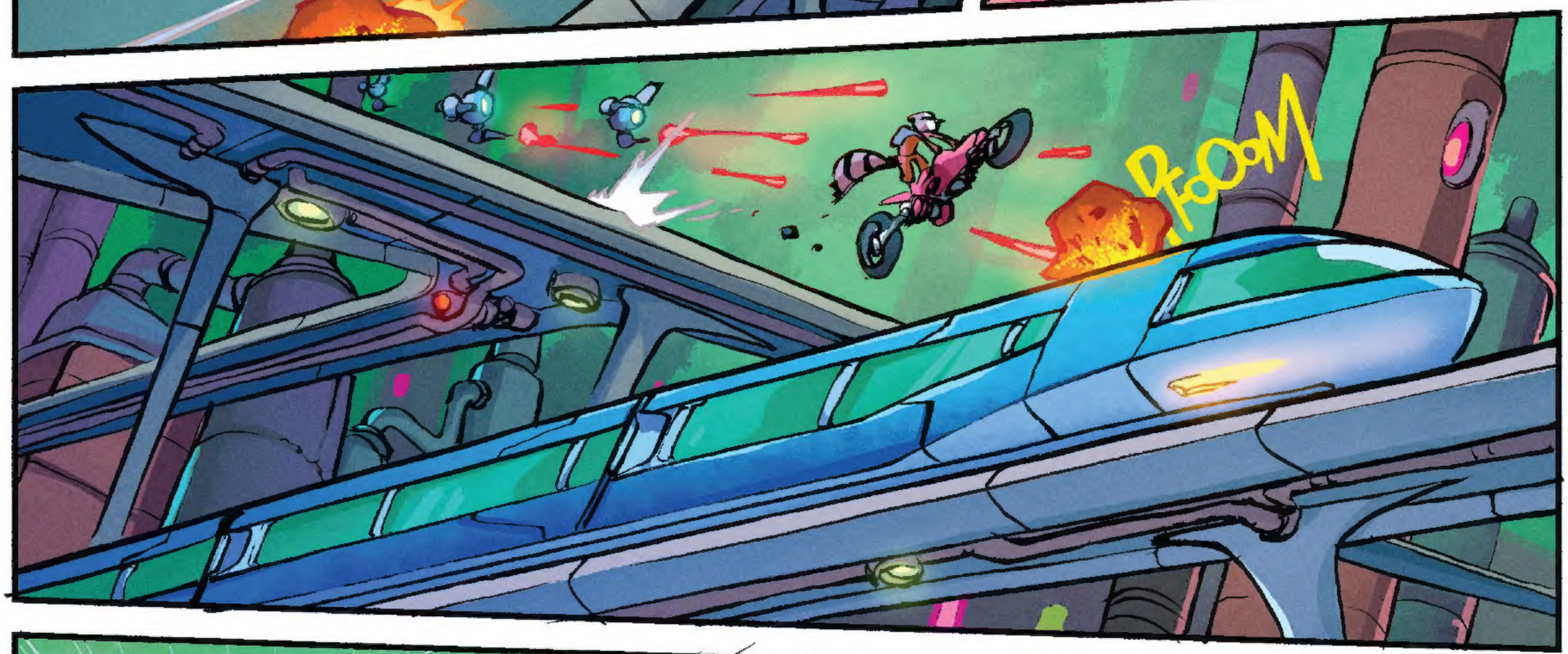
LIFE IS BASICALLY MADE UP OF *RUNNING*.
RUNNING FROM DANGER.
BZZM
PFOOM
RUNNING FROM PAIN.
BZZM
PFOOM

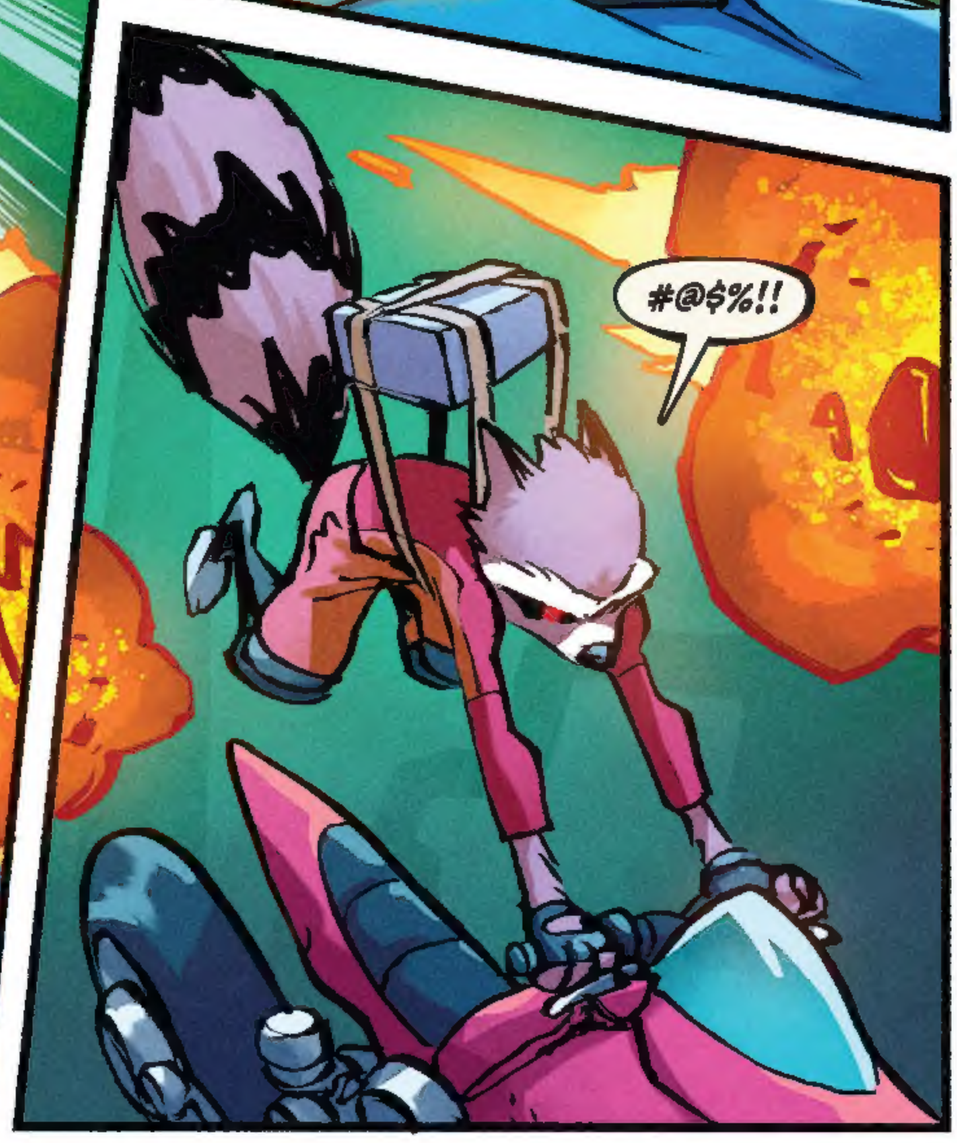

RUNNING FROM MISTAKES.
PFOOM
PFOOM

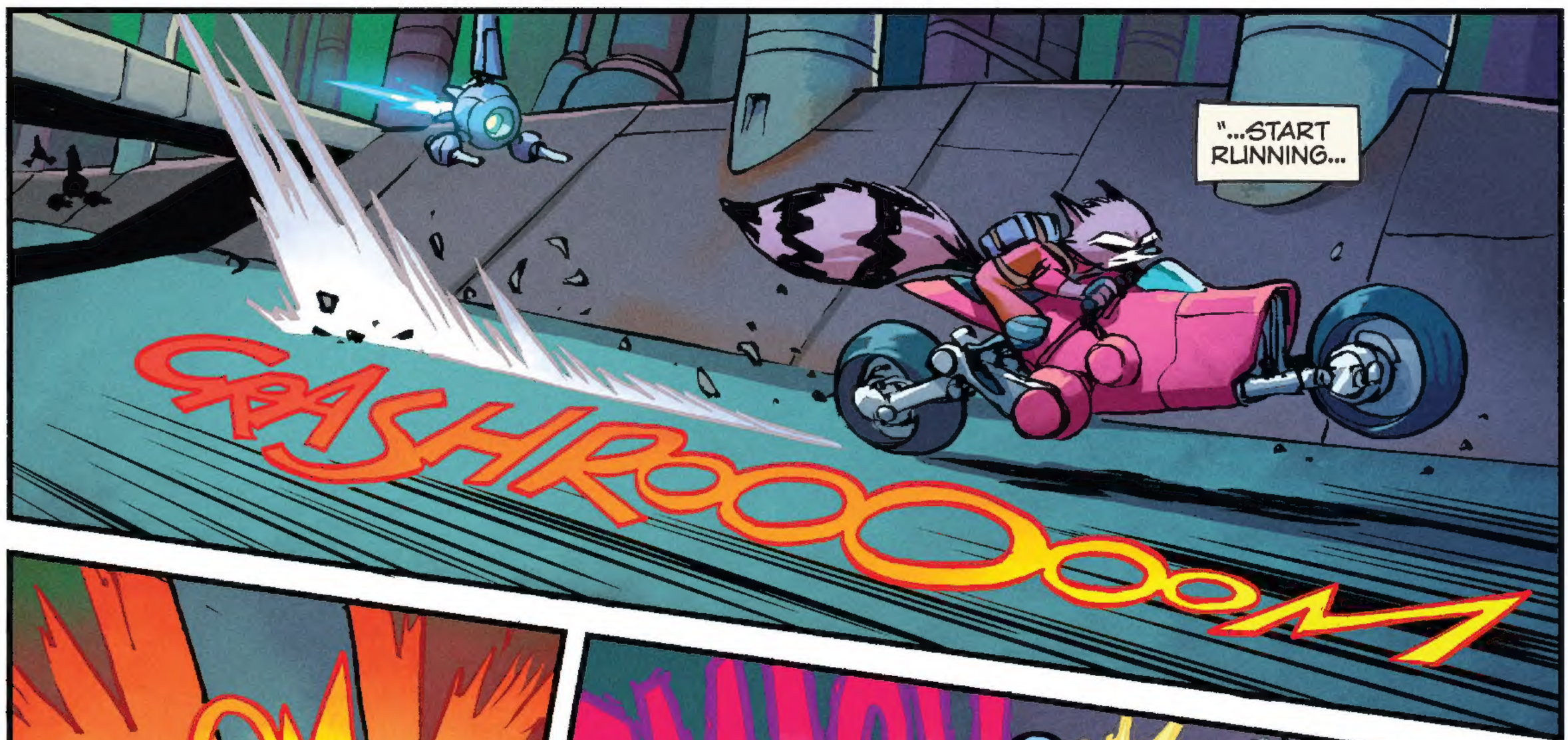

RRRRR


PFOOM

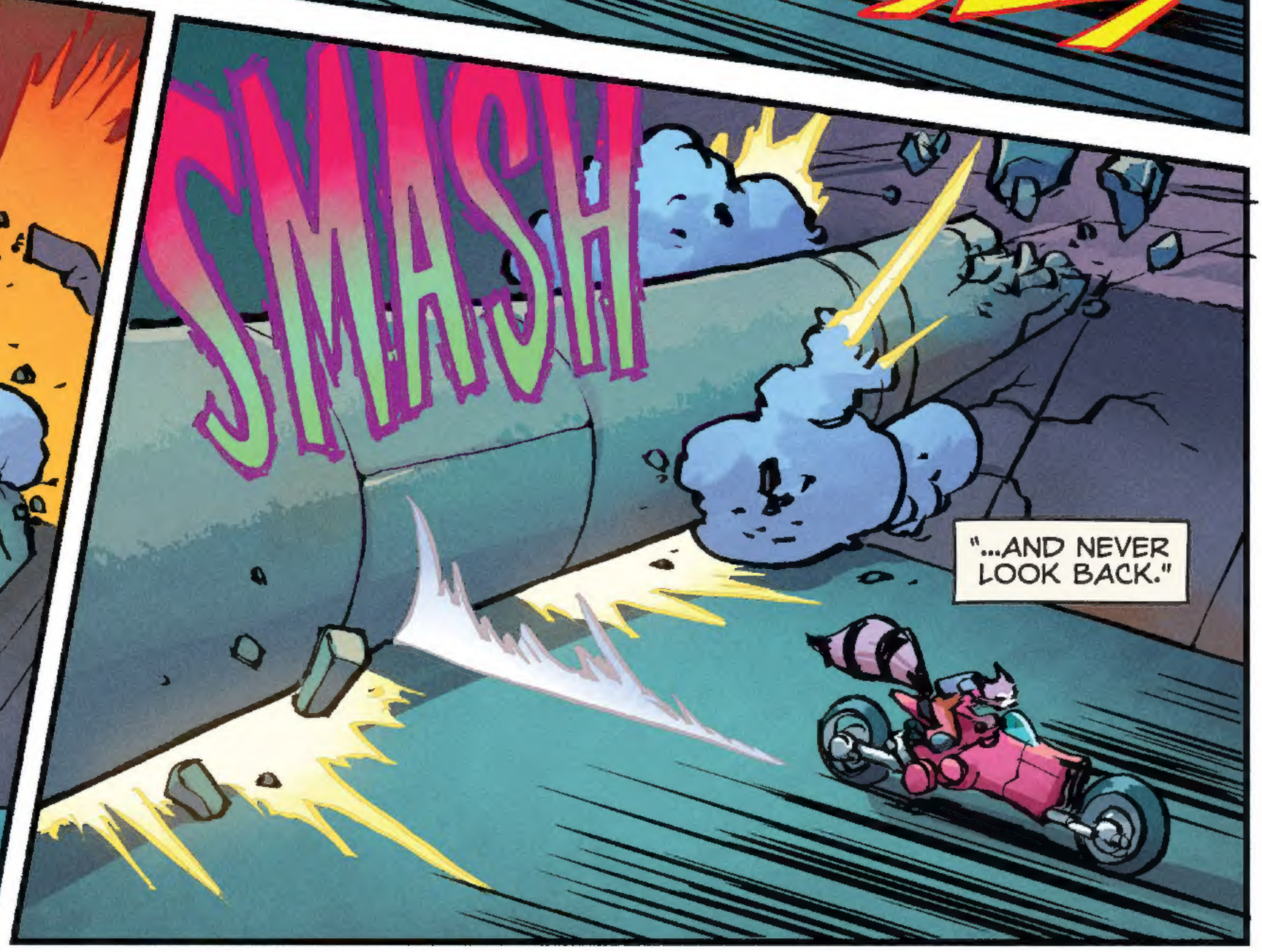
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, GETTING OLDER IS BIG BOSS NATURE'S WAY OF TEACHING US TO RUN.
IT'S SAYING "HEY, YOU! TURN AWAY FROM YOUR PAST...
PFOOM
SMASH

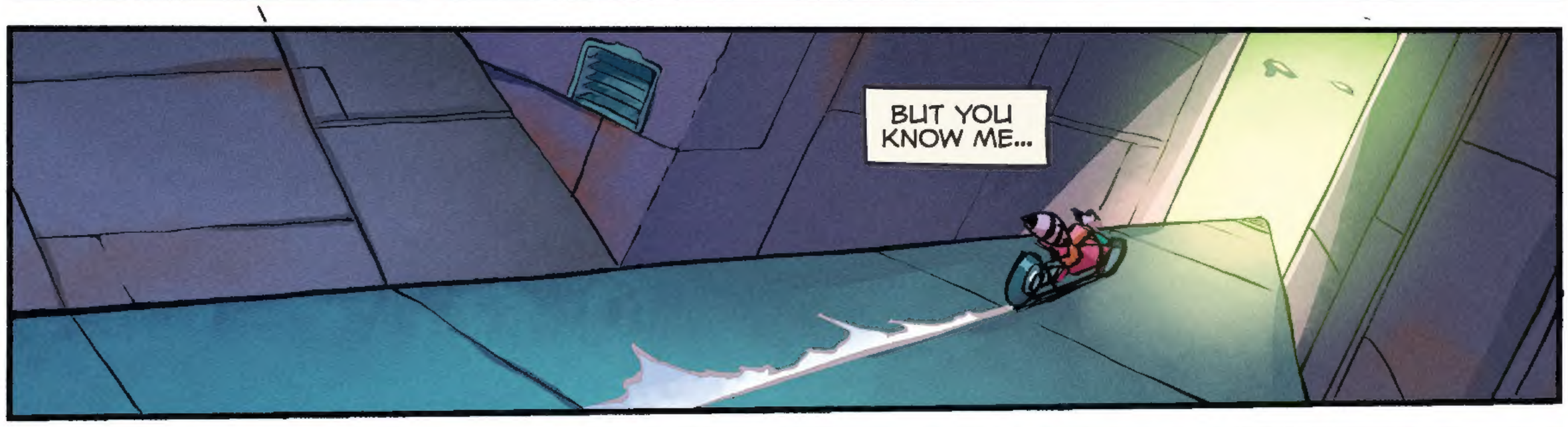
WRAM
VRRRR

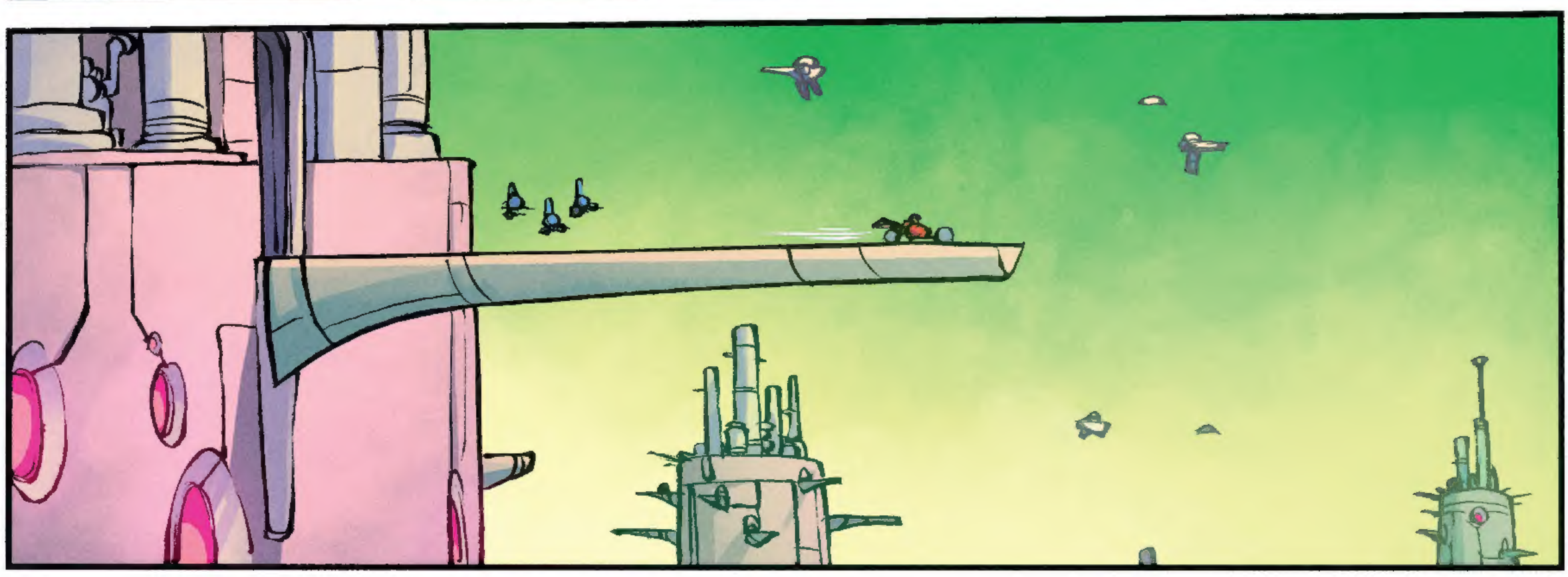

#@$%!!

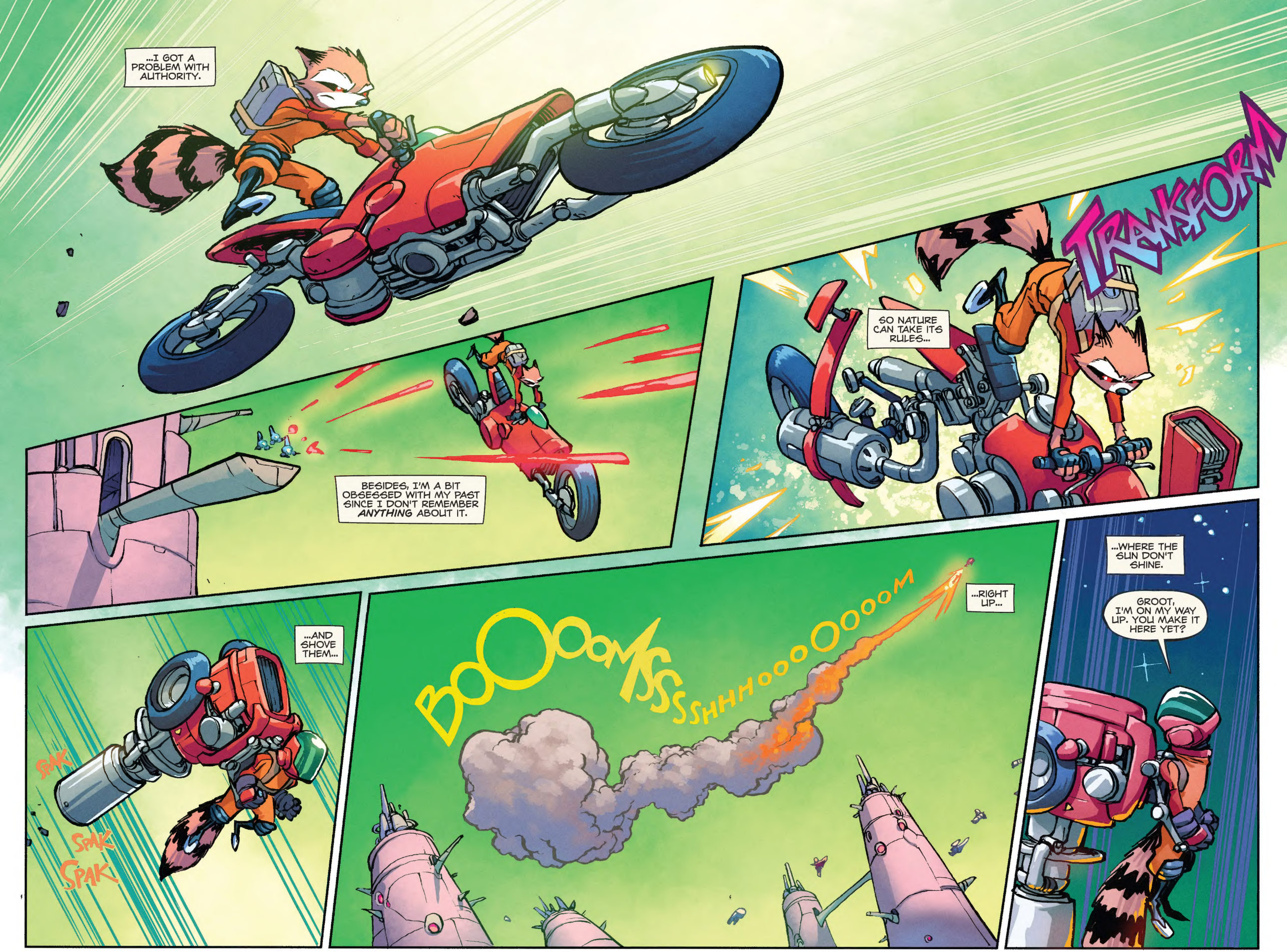

"...START RUNNING...
CRASHROOOOOOM

BOOM


SMASH
"...AND NEVER LOOK BACK."


BUT YOU KNOW ME...

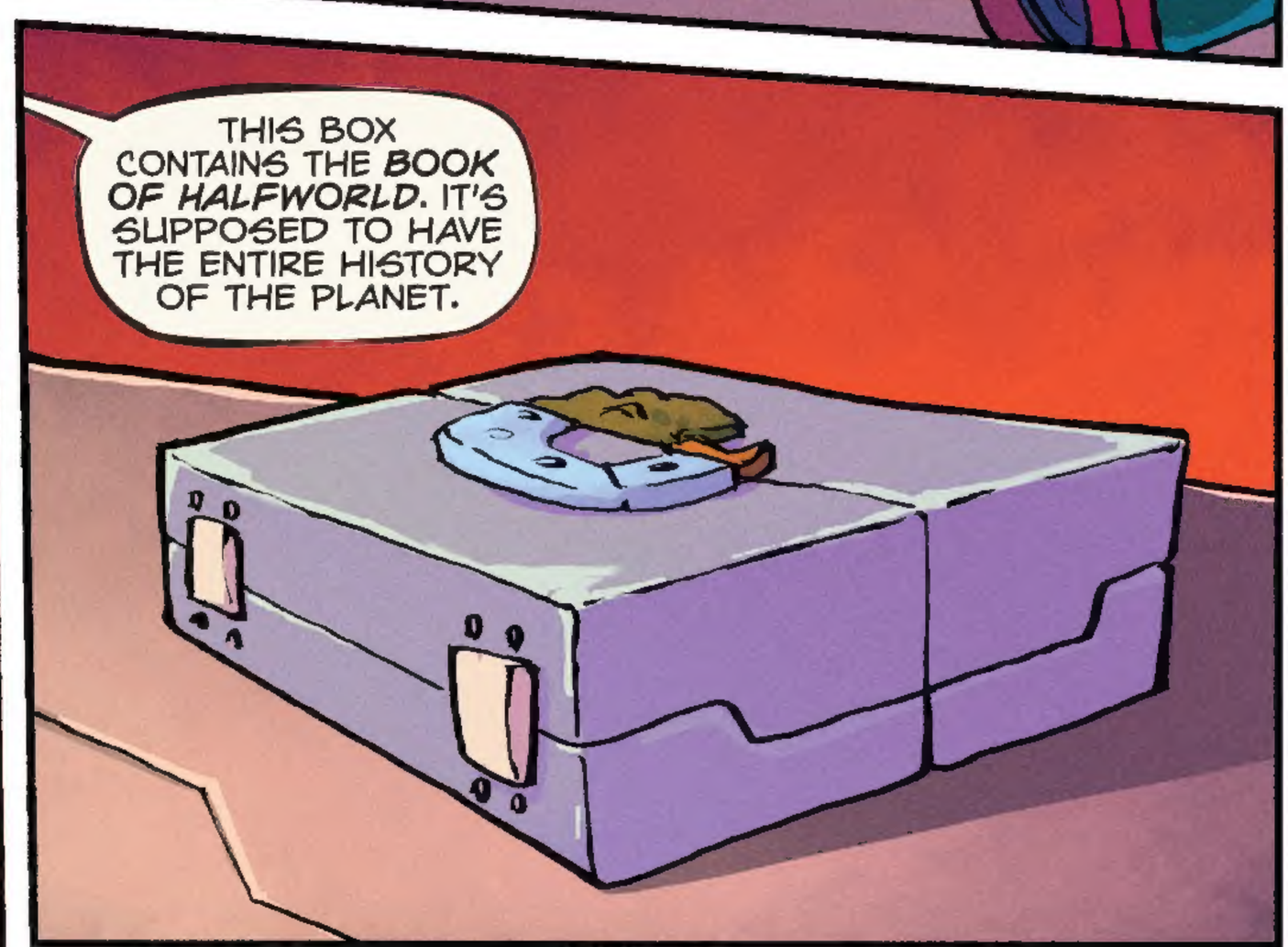



...I GOT A PROBLEM WITH AUTHORITY.
BESIDES, I'M A BIT OBSESSED WITH MY PAST SINCE I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
TRANSFORM
SO NATURE CAN TAKE ITS RULES...
...AND SHOVE THEM...
SPAK
SPAK
SPAK
BOOOOOM
SSSSHHHOOOOOOOM
...RIGHT UP...
...WHERE THE SUN DON'T SHINE.
GROOT, I'M ON MY WAY UP. YOU MAKE IT HERE YET?

I AM GROOT.
YOU'RE TOO GOOD TO ME, BUDDY.
I AM GROOT.
DON'T PUSH YOUR LUCK.

HERE IT IS. DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR THIS THING?
I AM GROOT.

THAT WAS RHETORICAL.


THIS BOX CONTAINS THE *BOOK OF HALFWORLD*. IT'S SUPPOSED TO HAVE THE ENTIRE HISTORY OF THE PLANET.

IT *HAS* TO HAVE THE ANSWERS TO WHERE I'M FROM. *WHO* I AM.

I'M FINALLY GOING TO KNOW EVERYTHING.

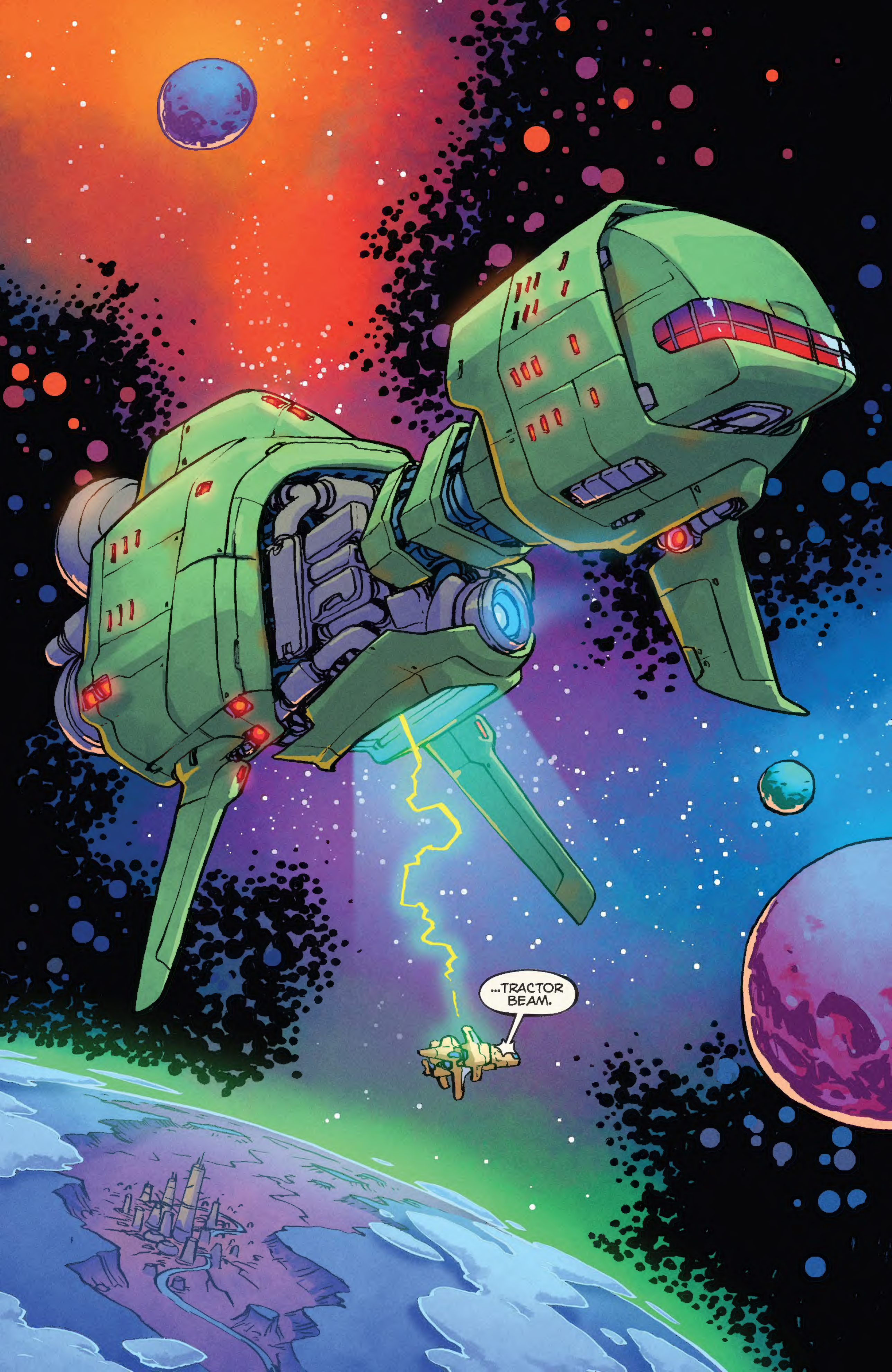
IT'S ALL RIGHT THERE.

AS SOON AS I FIGURE OUT...

I AM GROOT?
NOT NOW, DUMMY. GOTTA GET THIS THING--

THRUNK

I AM GROOT?
NO, I DON'T THINK WE WERE SHOT AT. MY TAIL IS TINGLING PRETTY BAD. FEELS LIKE A...


...TRACTOR BEAM.

KLANG
I AM GROOT?
I DON'T THINK THESE ARE THE COPS. TOO BIG FOR A DEBT-DODGER LIKE ME.
KKHUNG!
HOLD THE BOOK. I GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.
I AM GROOT.
HE DOESN'T OWN THE LINE, YOU KNOW.
WE ALL GET BAD FEELINGS.
HELLO, ROCKET.
PSSHHH

MY NAME IS CAPTAIN SALE...

...AND I WAS WONDERING IF I COULD BORROW YOUR BOOK.

NAH, I'M NOT BUYING THIS TIME.

I'M AFRAID I DON'T UNDERSTAND. HAVE I TRIED TO SELL YOU SOMETHING?

YEAH, AND I'M NOT FALLING FOR IT.
MOVE BACK OR--
STAND DOWN. IT'S OKAY, RIGHT, ROCKET?

WHO'S IN THERE? KALEEKO? THAT YOU?
AAAAH!

COME OUT! I'M DONE #@%$! AROUND WITH YOU, WHOEVER YOU ARE.

WHAT IN HOX NAME ARE YOU DOING?

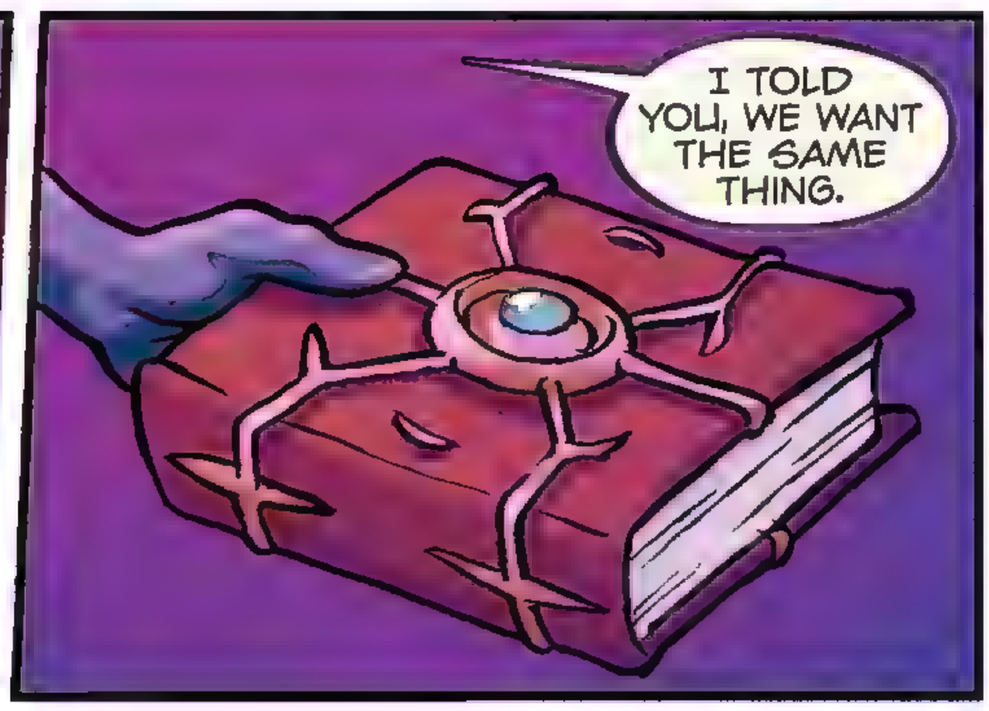
LOOKING FOR YOUR ZIPPER, YOU FAKE-ASS RACCOON!

NO ONE CALLS ME A RACCOON!
LET HIM GO, I GOT THIS.

DESPITE WHAT YOU MAY THINK...
KRAK
SPAK
...I'M NOT HERE TO ROB YOU.
I'M HERE TO *HELP* YOU.
SWOCK!
TO THE GUT
...WE BOTH WANT THE *SAME* THING!
WUMP
BELIEVE IT OR NOT...

YOU WANT SOME ASPIRIN TOO?
SHUT UP AND LISTEN!
...TOGETHER.
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN'T REMEMBER.
THERE ARE MANY OF US OUT THERE. MOST OF THEM COULDN'T HANDLE IT, FIGHTING THEIR NATURE BUT NOT UNDERSTANDING WHY. THEY THREW IN THE TOWEL.
BUT NOT *US*, ROCKET. WE'VE MADE IT HERE. YOU FOUND *THE BOOK OF HALFWORLD*. WE CAN FINALLY FIND OUR PEACE...
EVEN IF I WANTED TO BELIEVE YOU, IT'S NO GOOD. I COULDN'T OPEN IT.
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE KEY.

I'M SURE THIS IS WHERE ONE OF YOUR GOONS SHOOTS ME AND YOU FLY OFF WITH THE BOOK.
NO, ROCKET.

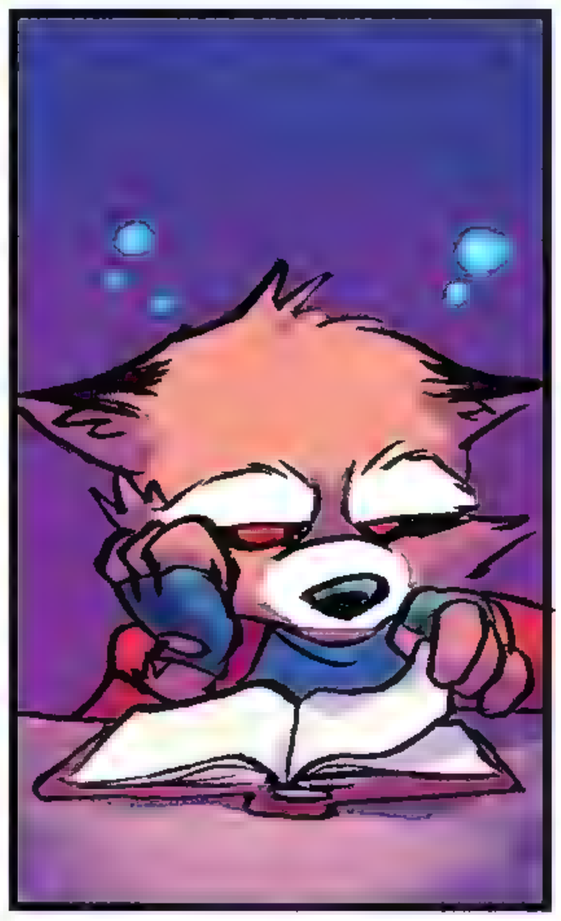

I TOLD YOU, WE WANT THE SAME THING.

YOU CAN READ IT.

TEN MINUTES LATER.

THIRTY MINUTES LATER.

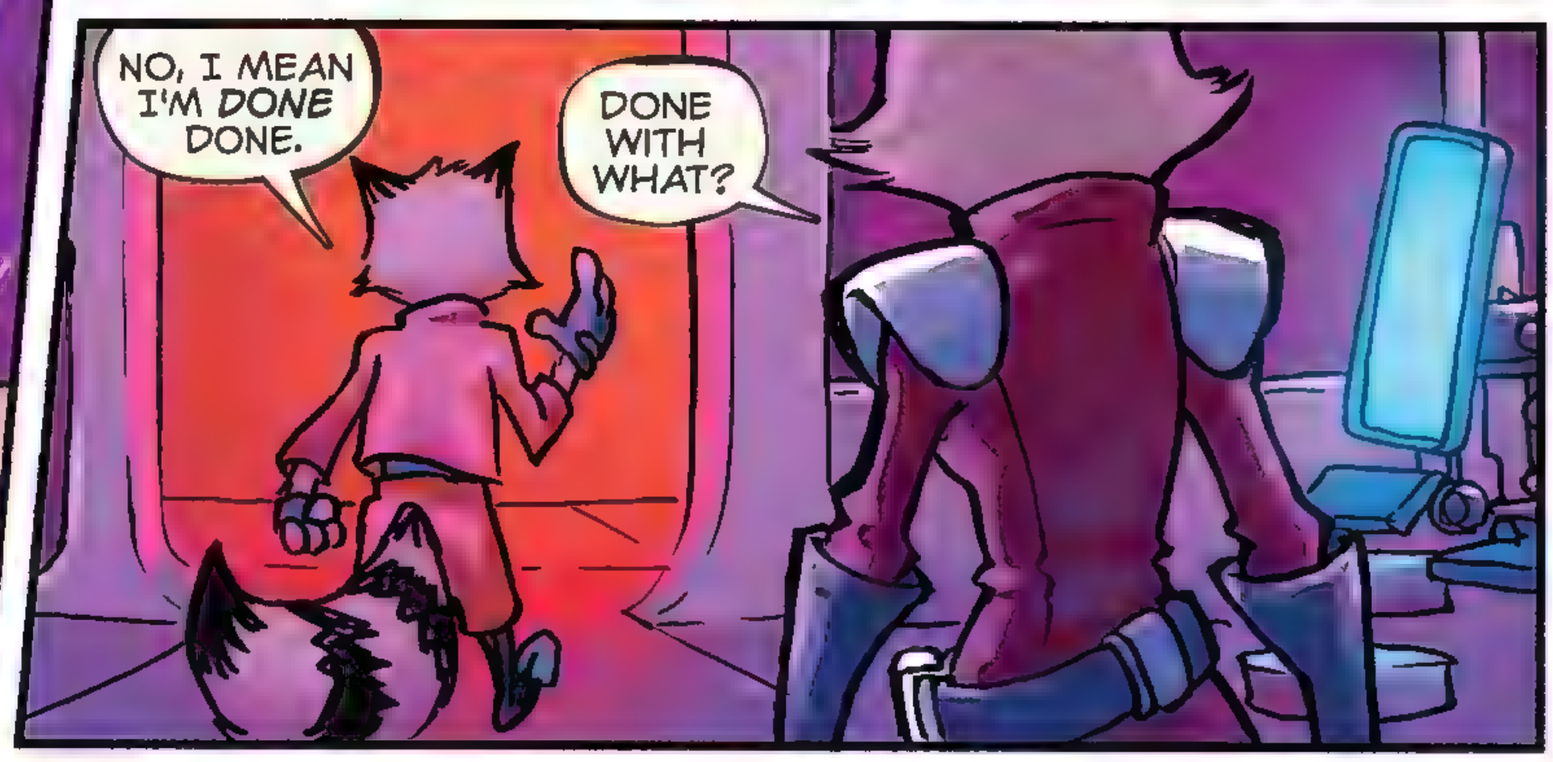
TWO HOURS LATER.
EEEEW

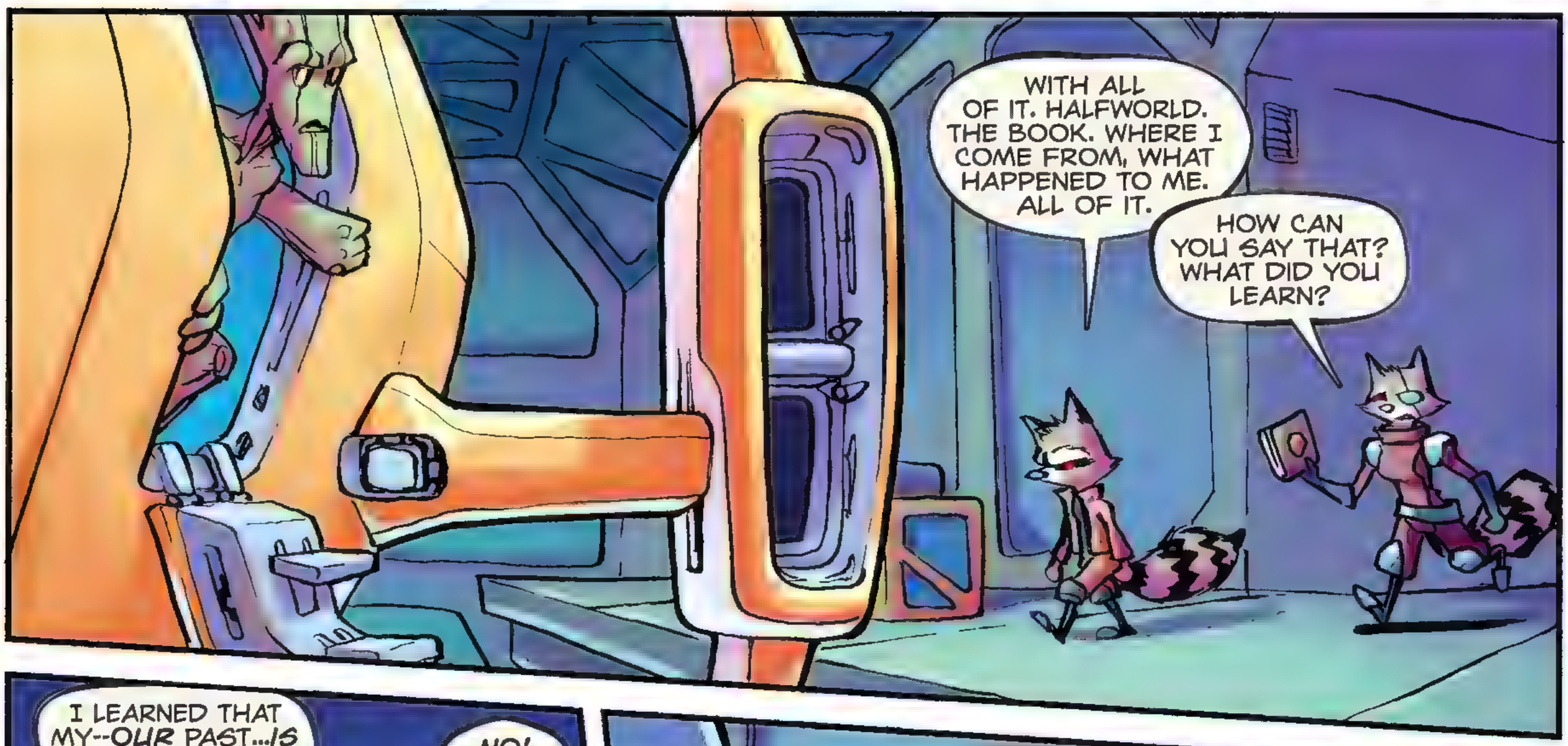


FOUR AND A HALF HOURS LATER.
zzzzzZZzzzz

I'M DONE.

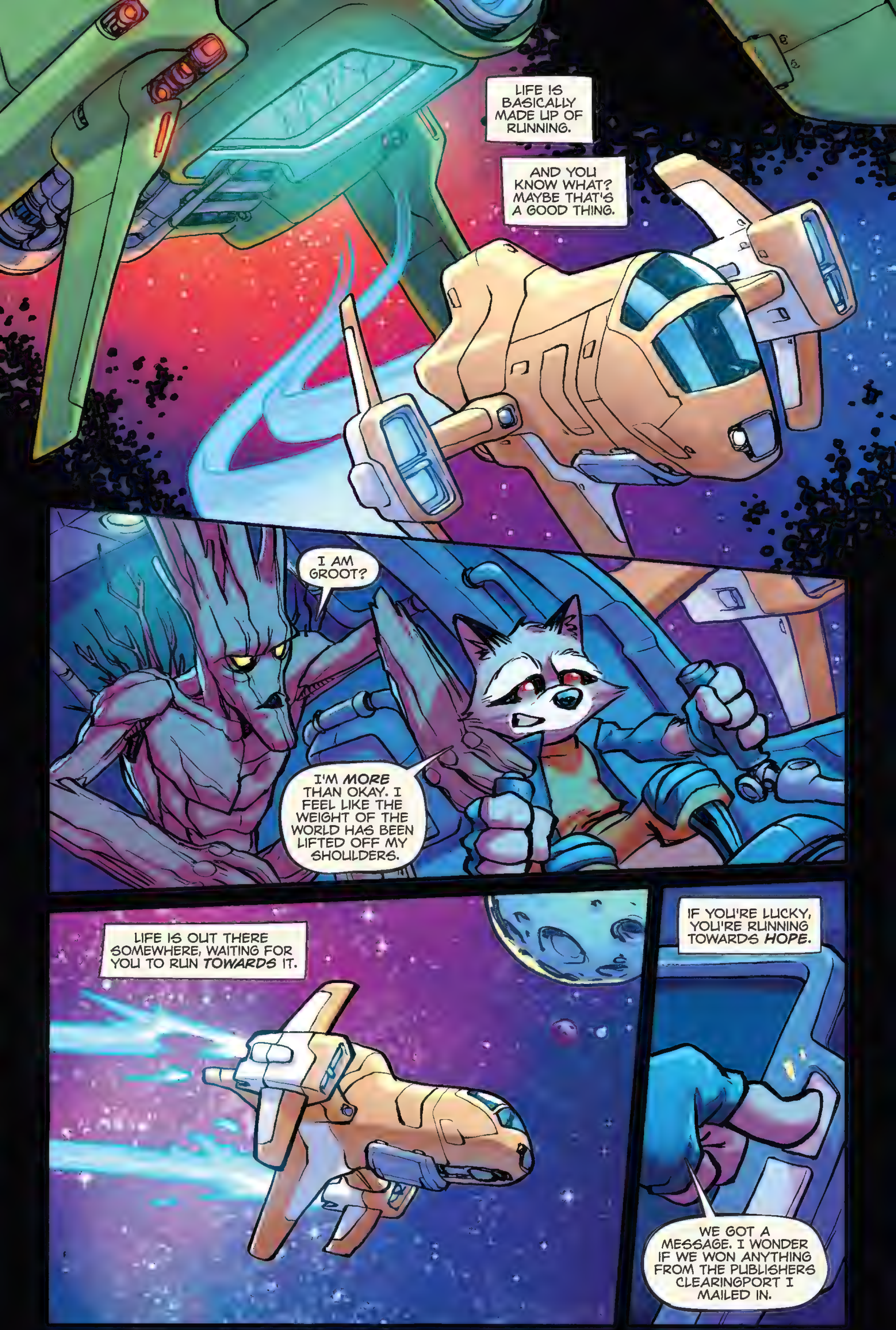
WHAT DID IT SAY? TELL ME.


NO, I MEAN I'M *DONE* DONE.
DONE WITH WHAT?


WITH ALL OF IT. HALFWORLD. THE BOOK. WHERE I COME FROM, WHAT HAPPENED TO ME. ALL OF IT.
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT? WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

I LEARNED THAT MY--*OUR* PAST...*IS A HOT MESS.*
THERE'S TOYS AND CLOWNS AND ROBOTS AND A BUNCH OF OTHER THINGS I CAN'T *UNSEE* NOW.
NO! YOU'RE LYING.

READ IT FOR YOURSELF, YOU'LL SEE. SOME STORIES AREN'T MEANT TO BE TOLD. SOME QUESTIONS AREN'T MEANT TO BE ANSWERED.
THE BOOK'S ALL YOURS, SALE.


LIFE IS BASICALLY MADE UP OF RUNNING.
AND YOU KNOW WHAT? MAYBE THAT'S A GOOD THING.
I AM GROOT?
I'M *MORE* THAN OKAY. I FEEL LIKE THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD HAS BEEN LIFTED OFF MY SHOULDERS.
LIFE IS OUT THERE SOMEWHERE, WAITING FOR YOU TO RUN *TOWARDS* IT.
IF YOU'RE LUCKY, YOU'RE RUNNING TOWARDS *HOPE*.
WE GOT A MESSAGE. I WONDER IF WE WON ANYTHING FROM THE PUBLISHERS CLEARINGPORT I MAILED IN.

BUT IF YOU'RE NOT LUCKY...
HELLO, MR. ROCKET. IT'S ME, STAN HANOVER. I'M CALLING BECAUSE YOUR CLASS-1 DEBT WARRANT...

...LIFE IS OUT THERE WAITING...
...HAS BEEN ELEVATED TO A SERIES 9B-8 FELONY.

...TO KILL YOU IF YOU RESIST ARREST.
UPON CAPTURE YOU WILL BE INCARCERATED WITHOUT TRIAL FOR NO LESS THAN TEN YEARS. IF YOU RESIST YOU WILL BE KILLED ON SIGHT. HAVE A GOOD DAY.

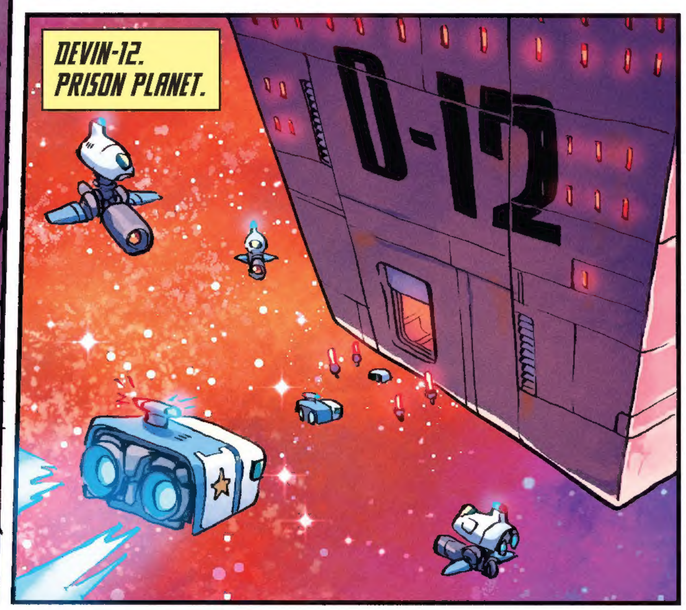
OKAY, NOW I'M LEANING BACK THE OTHER WAY.
IN HINDSIGHT, I PROBABLY SHOULD'VE DROPPED THAT MONEY OFF AT THE COURT, YEAH?
I AM GROOT.
NOT NOW, I'M THINKING.

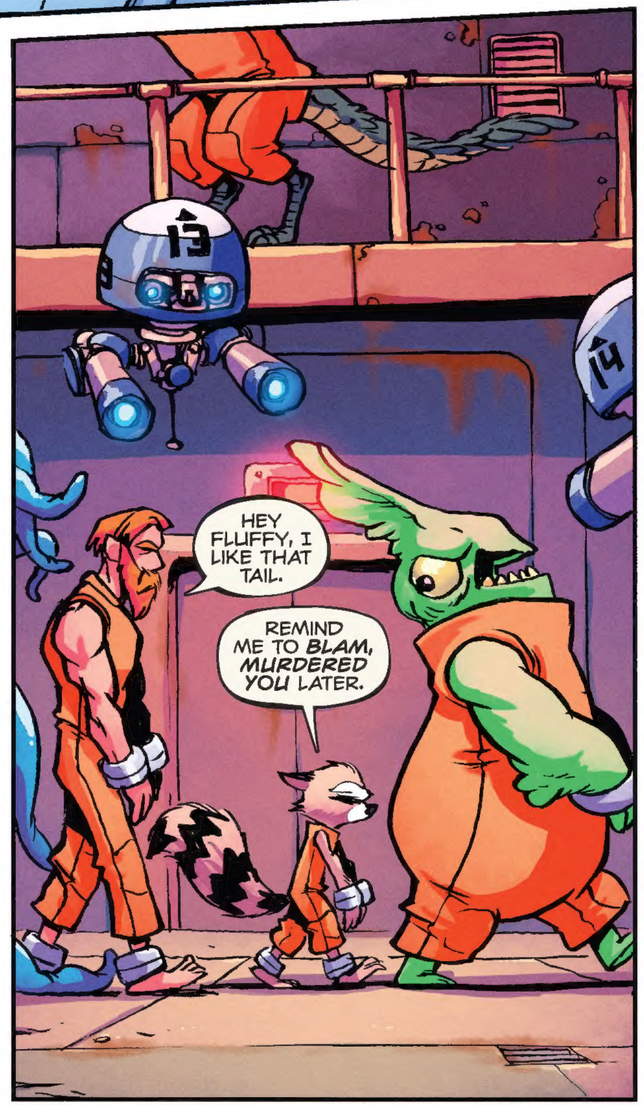
WHAT? BEING THE DEEP-THINKING NARRATOR CAN GET CONFUSING. SO LET ME START AGAIN.

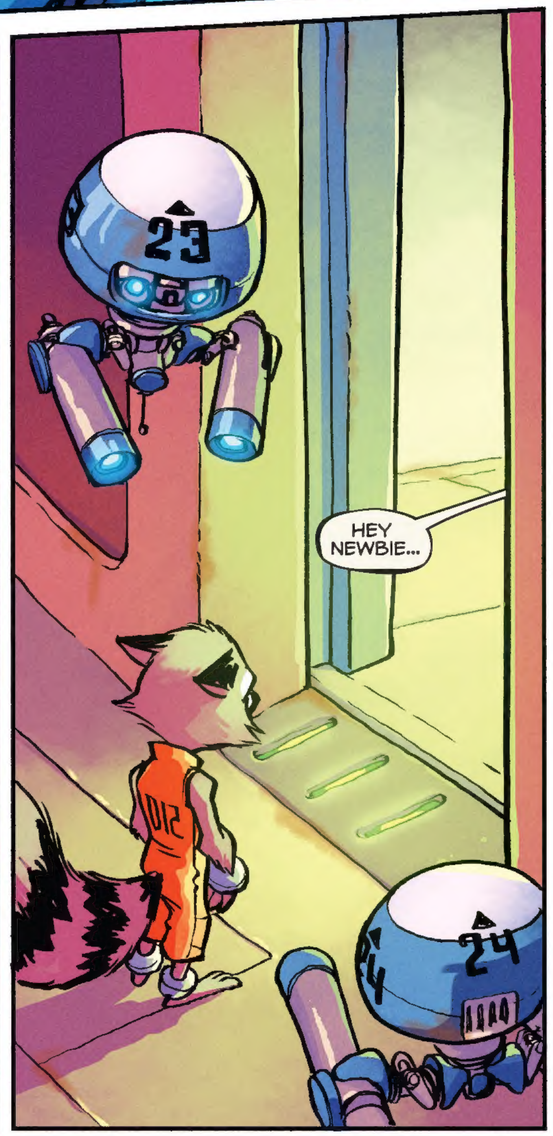
LIFE IS ABOUT *WISHING* YOU WOULD HAVE PAID THE MONEY YOU OWED THE $%#@! INTERGALACTIC COURT SYSTEM INSTEAD OF CHASING DOWN YOUR CONVOLUTED BACKSTORY SO YOU STAY OUT OF PRISON...

...BECAUSE IT SEEMS THAT WHOLE *RUNNING* THING ISN'T AN OPTION AT THE MOMENT.

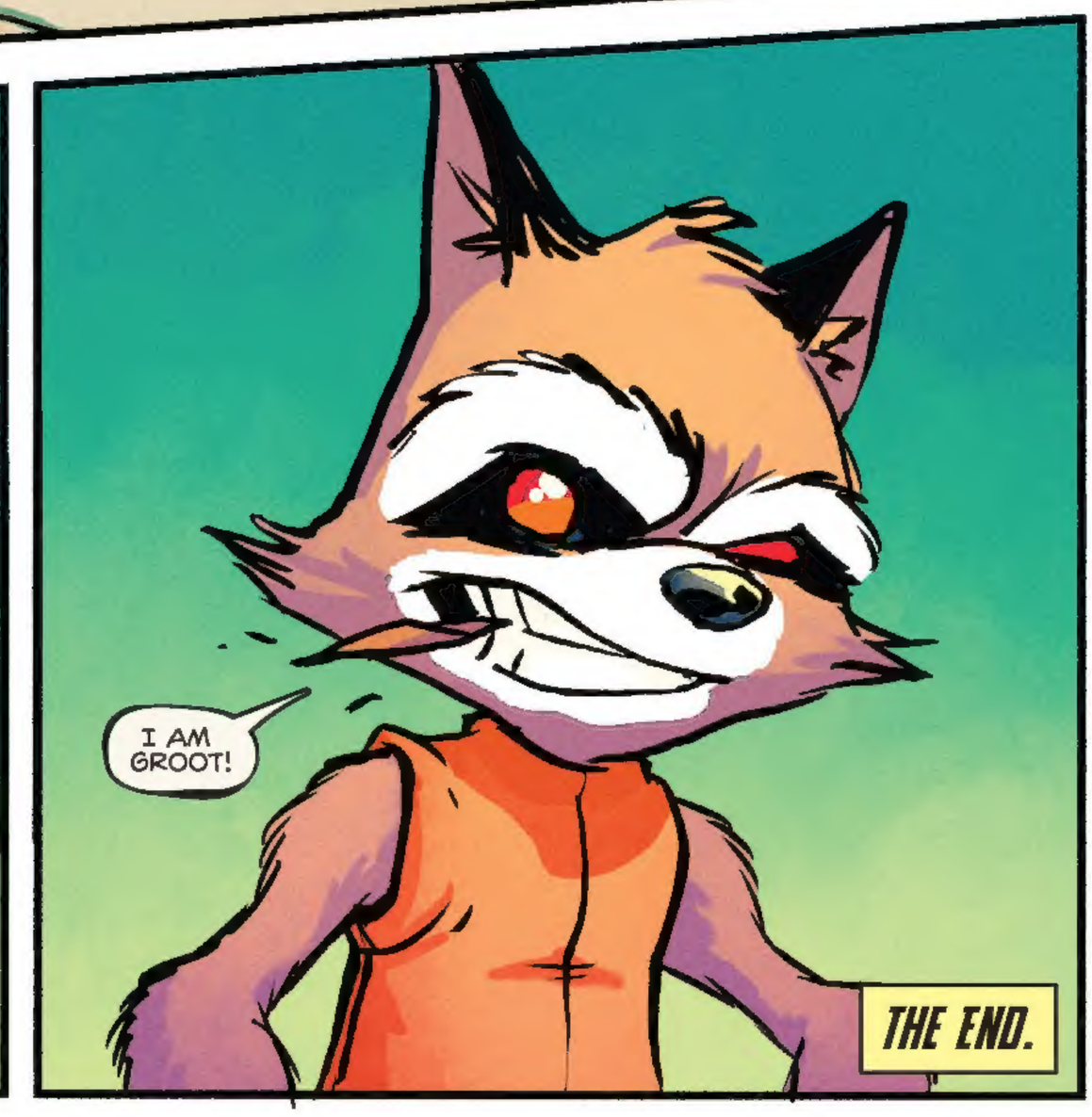
ROCKET RACCOON. YOU ARE UNDER ARREST. WE HAVE YOU SURROUNDED. SURRENDER OR BE ELIMINATED.







...DID YOU BRING ONE OF THOSE GROOT-PICKS WITH YOU?



Next Month:

Check out an all-new adventure starring Rocket's best bud!

GROOT #1

ZONE